

# ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

*Developing environmental solutions through research and education.*

4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 300 ∪ Washington, DC 20008 ∪ 202 364 3789 ∪ FAX 202 364-3788

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 2, 2002

Contact: Anne M. Brauer, Director of Development and Communications - 202.364.3775  
Michael J. Cagney, President - 202.364.3770

## **ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION HONORS DAIMLERCHRYSLER CORPORATION AS "ENVIRONMENTALIST OF THE YEAR"**

**Washington, D.C.** - On June 26, 2002 the Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) held its Environmentalist of the Year award gala in the Pavilion of The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in the nation's capital.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation, Auburn Hills, Mich., was recognized for its care for the environment by turning waste into car parts through the Chrysler Group's CARE (Concepts for Advanced Recycling and Environmental) Car II program. The project used a process developed by Recovery Plastics International (RPI) to sort and separate different types of plastic, with the resulting recovered plastic being recycled and reused. Fifty-four parts were made with the recycled plastic and fitted onto two Jeep® Grand Cherokees.

EREF Chairman Ronald J. McCracken and President Michael J. Cagney presented Bernard Robertson, Senior Vice President, Engineering Technologies and Regulatory Affairs, DaimlerChrysler, with a faceted, engraved crystal award and the foundation's check for \$50,000. Mr. Robertson said that DaimlerChrysler plans to donate the \$50,000 cash award to a charity or environmental program operating in Michigan.

The list of gala attendees included chief executive officers and senior executives from several waste service companies (Leach Company (Oshkosh, Wisc.), Mack Trucks, Inc. (Allentown, Pa.), Philadelphia Tramrail Company (Philadelphia, Pa.), RJM Manufacturing Company (Easley, S.C.), SCS Engineers (Reston, Va.), and Waste Management, Inc. (Houston, Tex.)); the Honorable Bob Davis (R-Mi. - Retired) (**add names of reps from Senator Joe Biden's office?**); Keith Robinson, Deputy Regional Director for the United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for North America; and DaimlerChrysler representatives Christine Estereicher, Susan Yester, Gerald R. Winslow and Kathleen Graham.

Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Kathy Mattea performed an extraordinary acoustical set with three accompanying artists, with music and songs ranging from Bluegrass to Irish and Celtic.

**Michael Cagney, EREF president said, "**

(last year's) I want to express my sincere gratitude for all who attended the gala. Putting competitive interests aside and showing once again the tight social network of the \$40 billion solid waste industry, more than 100 guests flew in from all over the United States to attend. Guests also included senior executives from General Motors Corporation who are a major benefactor of Earth Force. It was by all accounts a very successful affair. A challenge for EREF staff is to set the stage for next year's gala, which will be even better."

The mission of the Environmental Research and Education Foundation is to develop environmental solutions for the future through research and education ([www.erefndn.org](http://www.erefndn.org)).

###